

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5966

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, TD

SUBJECT: SUGAR STRIKE

REF: POS 0081

1. AFTER WEEK-LONG STRIKE ACTION AGAINST CARONI REPORTED REFTEL, SUGAR WORKERS BEGAN WORK JANUARY 14, BUT DEPOSED ALL TRINIDAD PRESIDENT PANDAY ANNOUNCED THAT WORK STOPPAGE WOULD BEGIN AGAIN WEEK OF JANUARY 21. WORKERS WILL WORK ALTERNATE WEEKS UNTIL SUGAR MANAGEMENT MEETS THEIR DEMANDS FOR GUARANTEED WORK, ACCORDING TO PANDAY. MEANWHILE, ALL TRINIDAD SECRETARY GENERAL SINGH HAS ENGAGED FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL KARL HUDSON PHILLIPS TO REPRESENT ALL TRINIDAD IN THE GUARANTEED WORK CASE NOW IN THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

2. CANE HARVESTING AT ORANGE GROVE ESTATES, WHERE WORKERS APPEAR TO BE OUT OF CONTROL OF EITHER PANDY OR SINGH, HAS BEEN POSTPONED AGAIN BECAUSE OF CONTINUING "GO SLOW" ACTION.

3. INDUSTRIAL SUGAR NOW IN VERY SHORT SUPPLY. SOME TRINIDAD CONSUMERS SUCH AS SOFT DRINK INDUSTRY, BREWERIES, INDUSTRIAL BAKERS AND MILK PROCESSORS HAVE LESS THAN 10-DAY SUPPLY. EMBASSY AGATT HAS BEEN APPROACHED TO ASSIST IN POSSIBLE IMPORTATION OF REFINED SUGAR FROM U.S. SOURCES.

MOFFAT

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Message Attributes

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